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IN RECOGNITION OF FIRST
CLEVELAND MOSQUE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2007

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize First Cleveland Mosque on the occasion of its 70th Anniversary, and to celebrate all their contributions toward creating a more diverse and inclusive Northeast Ohio.

Founded in 1937 by Imam Al Hajj Wali Akram, First Cleveland Mosque is one of the oldest Muslim institutions in America. The Mosque has faithfully guided Cleveland Muslims, holding fast to the ideals of peace, equality and social harmony central to their faith.

As our world struggles to understand its beautiful religious diversity, the First Cleveland Mosque, since its inception, has been a force for ecumenism, encouraging dialogue between faiths and reaching out to their non-Muslim neighbors. The result has been a Cleveland faith community rooted in understanding and mutual respect.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the First Cleveland Mosque on the occasion of its 70th Anniversary. May all their efforts toward ecumenism continue to create a more peaceful Northeast Ohio and world.

THE GREAT LAKES WATER
PROTECTION ACT H.R. 2907

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2007

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today I am pleased to join with Congressman LIPINSKI to introduce the Great Lakes Water Protection Act. This bipartisan legislation, supported by the Alliance for the Great Lakes, National Resources Defense Council, National Wildlife Foundation, National Parks Conservation Association, Great Lakes Aquatic Network, Audubon Society and more, would set a date certain to end sewage dumping in America's largest supply of fresh water, the Great Lakes. More than forty million Americans depend on the Great Lakes for their drinking water, food, jobs, and recreation. We need to put a stop to the poisoning of our water supply. Cities along the Great Lakes must become environmental stewards of our country's most precious freshwater ecosystem.

The Great Lakes Water Protection Act gives cities until 2027 to build the full infrastructure needed to prevent sewage dumping into the Great Lakes. Those who violate EPA sewage dumping regulations after that federal deadline will be subject to fines up to \$100,000 for every day they are in violation. These fines will be directed to a newly established Great Lakes Clean-Up Fund within the Clean Water State Revolving Fund. Penalties collected would go into this fund and be reallocated to the states surrounding the Great Lakes. From there, the funds will be spent on wastewater

treatment options, with a special focus on greener solutions such as habitat protection and wetland restoration.

This legislation is sorely needed. Many major cities along the Great Lakes do not have the infrastructure needed to divert sewage overflows during times of heavy rainfall. More than twenty-four billion gallons of sewage are dumped into the Lakes each year; Detroit alone dumped over thirteen billion gallons of sewage into Lake Huron in 2005.

These disastrous practices result in thousands of annual beach closings for the region's 815 freshwater beaches. Cook County beach closings nearly tripled from 213 in 2003 to 613 in 2004. According to the National Resources Defense Council, in a 92-day period from June 1 to August 31 in 2005, there were 87 days of beach closings in my District alone. This trend is echoed throughout the Great Lakes region and is one we need to reverse.

Protecting our Great Lakes is one of my top priorities in the Congress. As an original co-sponsor of the Great Lakes Restoration Act, I favor a broad approach to addressing needs in the region. However, we must also move forward with tailored approaches to fix specific problems as we continue to push for more comprehensive reform. I am proud to introduce this important legislation that addresses a key problem facing our Great Lakes, and hope my colleagues will support me in ensuring that these important resources become free from the threat of sewage pollution.

HONORING HERB CROUTHAMEL

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2007

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Herb Crouthamel for nearly half-a-century of service to the families of Bucks County. On Friday, June 15—after 46 years of driving a school bus for Central Bucks West and Our Lady of Mount Carmel schools—Mr. Crouthamel drove his final route. During those 46 years driving the bus and the 81 years he has been a member of our community Mr. Crouthamel has developed lasting, personal relationships but most importantly, he has protected our children.

Madam speaker, Mr. Crouthamel served our country as a member of the U.S. Navy in World War II and went to school on the GI Bill after his return. He started his route by chance, supplementing his work as a car salesman, but soon it became one of his life works.

Students, parents and school administrators all hail Mr. Crouthamel's devoted commitment to students. He impresses the students he drives by knowing all of their names and his record shows his dedication to student safety, both on and off the bus.

Mr. Crouthamel may be giving up the bus route but he isn't giving up his service to our community. He plans to continue work for his local country store and he will also volunteer at the Doylestown Hospital after his retirement.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Crouthamel's commitment to children and the community is an inspiration. His years of service come with pub-

lic acclaim for his attention to both safety and the lives of local families. On behalf of the community and all the lives he has touched and protected, I would like to thank Mr. Crouthamel for his life-long commitment to excellence and service.

INTRODUCTION OF CORPORATE
ANTI-INVERSION BILL

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 28, 2007

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce legislation today to shut down a potential loophole in the anti-inversion provisions of the tax code. As many of my colleagues will remember, I lead the charge back in early 2002 to shut down the so-called "corporate expatriate" loophole. Corporate expatriates trade in their U.S. citizenship for citizenship in certain no-tax or low-tax havens through reincorporation or a corporate "inversion." These corporate expatriates often have little or no presence in these haven jurisdictions; some merely rent a mailbox to establish their new headquarters.

Following the attacks of September 11, 2001, some aggressive tax advisors were telling their clients that the climate was ripe for inversions as most stock prices were depressed. The only tax paid when a corporation departed was a tax on the gain of the stock or assets transferred to the new foreign parent company. As one tax advisor put it, "Maybe patriotism needs to take a back seat to improved corporate profits."

Despite the outcry from shareholders, taxpayers, and many of us in Congress, the leadership of the prior Congress fought enactment of a loophole closer. It was not until late in 2004, in the American Jobs Creation Act, that corporate expatriation was finally put to a halt. That bill used the same formula of my original bill—simply stating that if almost all of the shareholders of the new foreign company were the same as under the old American company and if the company had little real business in the host foreign country, then the corporate expatriate would be taxed as if it were still a U.S. company.

That new law put a chill on the market for corporate expatriation. However, earlier this year, one American company stated it was moving the headquarters of the operation to a foreign country with no corporate income tax. The company is not really changing its residency. Many have speculated that this is really a two-step process: move some administrative functions abroad to establish a minimal presence, and then give up U.S. corporate citizenship.

I think this would circumvent the intent of the original law and that is why I am filing legislation today to close that loophole. My bill would exclude any management or administrative functions, including the corporate headquarters, from the calculation of what constitutes substantial business activities in the foreign country. I am sure that many CEOs would not think it too much a sacrifice to relocate their office to the sunnier climes of some of these havens and thereby shave millions off of the company's tax bill. I urge my colleagues to support my legislation to prevent this type of tax avoidance.